



Mobile Phone Use Policy: Students

Rationale

The Department of Education does not permit students use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purposes.

All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration.

Sorrento Primary School acknowledges that an increasing number of parents/carers for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones. The policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at school.

Conditions of Use

- Students who may need to maintain contact with parents/caregivers due to out of school time commitments, health issues, travel or safety may bring mobile phones to school.
- The use of mobile phones for all students will be banned from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the day. This includes before school and at break times. Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and taken to the administration office before the school day begins and collected at the end of the school day. Students will need to sign in and out their mobile phones at the administration office. Sorrento Primary School will securely store student mobile phones during the school day.
- Smart watches are considered a mobile phone as stated in the Department of Education 'Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy.' Students are to be discouraged from wearing them to school. They must be stored in the office.
- Photos and videos are not to be taken on student's mobile phones whilst on the school site.
- Any form of communication including texting, voice calls and accessing any form of social media is strictly prohibited on school grounds.
- No mobile phones will be allowed during excursions or camps (unless otherwise authorised). Contact must be made through the school to the teacher in charge of the excursion or camp.
- Any phone used inappropriately by a student will be removed from the student and secured in Administration. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect the phone from Administration. Students will receive a behavioural consequence in line with the SPS Behaviour Education Guidelines and Procedures process of Student Withdrawal as a result of inappropriately using a mobile phone or other electronic device.
- School staff will not be responsible for the loss or damage of mobile phones brought to school by students.
- For multiple offences of non-compliance with this policy, student phones may require collection by a parent/carer or loss of good standing.

Exemptions

- to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
- for a particular educational purpose under the direct instruction of a teacher; or
- with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.

Review and Updates

Sorrento PS will periodically review and update this Mobile Phone Use Policy to ensure its relevance and effectiveness.

Revised 2024

Review Date 2025